GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3482
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2008
KILLING OF LEOPARD AND TIGER IN VAN VIHAR NATIONAL PARK
Singh Shri Prabhunath

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a leopard and a tiger have been killed in Van Vihar National Park at Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken against those responsible; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to save wild animals in this region?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI S. REGUPATHY)

(a) As reported by the State Government,no leopard or tiger has been killed in Van Vihar National Park, Bhopal during last three years.

(b) & (c) Does not arise.

(d) The steps taken by Government to prevent extinction of tigers and other species in the country are as follows:

i) National Parks and Sanctuaries have been created as per the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to provide better protection to wildlife and their habitat.

ii) Legal protection has been provided to endangered wild animals, including Tiger, Lion, Elephant, Leopard, Rhino, Wild Buffalo, Tibetan Antelope, Marine turtles, Corals, etc, against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

iii) The Wildlife (Protection) Act has been amended and made more stringent.The punishments in cases of offences have been enhanced.

iv) Financial and technical assistance is extended to the State/ UT Governments under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz, 'Development of National Parks & Sanctuaries', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant' for providing better protection to wild animals;

v) The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau has been set up for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife and its products.

vi) The State Governments have been requested to strengthen the field formations and intensify patrolling in and around the Protected Areas.

vii) A multidisciplinary Tiger Conservation Authority has been constituted with effect from 04-09-2006, for strengthening tiger conservation by interalia, ensuring normative standards in tiger reserve management and preparation of reserve specific tiger conservation plan etc.

viii) The revised Project Tiger guidelines have been issued to States for strengthening tiger conservation.